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Today's Weather.

Portland, Dec. 8.—Western Oregon and Western Washington—Friday, occasional rain or snow.

GET THREE BEHIND ME, SATAN.

"Fools rush in where angels dare not tread." This applies with peculiar force to his honor, Mayor Seufert of The Dalles, who has a mania for seeing his name in print. For some unaccountable reason, Mr. Seufert demands the strict enforcement of the fishing laws. Time was, in the dim and murky past, when he had no knowledge of the existence of any fishing laws. He was and is the owner of several fish wheels below Celilo, which have done more to destroy the salmon industry than all other appliances combined. These wheels used to catch all the salmon, large and small. The law expressly prohibited taking salmon under a certain weight, and in order to comply with the provisions of the law, the upper river wheelmen used to catch thousands of small fish weighing from one to five pounds and put them in a barrel and sink them in the river so the master fish warden could not see them. The result was that all the small salmon were caught out and none remained to supply the deficiency. The laws were openly violated by the owners of fish wheels, and to such an extent, that a bill was introduced in the legislature in 1895 to abolishing all fish wheels. The wheelmen were there in full force, with a large sack which they used to good advantage in influencing legislation. The state had to resort to artificial propagation to create a supply of fish. During the past two years the fish wheels have not caught many fish, and now Mr. Seufert wants the laws enforced. If he had made an effort to see that they were enforced years ago, there would be no necessity of weeping and wailing in the ballroom of Celilo.

"The greed of fisheries and their defiance of law, Mr. Seufert says, warrant the legislatures in turning a deaf ear to their plaints and in harkening only to the general interest in perpetuation of the salmon species. He hopes that the lawmakers will ascertain why the closed season has not been enforced and will take means to drive the fish wardens to their duty hereafter."

"Laws have been passed, but where are the fish wardens to enforce them and the fishermen and cannerymen to observe them? Money has been appropriated for hatcheries, but where are the eggs to keep them busy?"

Mr. Seufert has probably forgotten about a letter he wrote to Master Fish Warden Van Dusen on September 10, in which he made the proposition to contribute a certain amount per case or stand a fine, if the master fish warden would allow him to violate the law and fish during the closed season. In order to refresh Mr. Seufert's memory in this regard, we publish the letter, which is as follows:

"The Dalles, Oregon, Sept. 10, 1904.

"Mr. H. G. Van Dusen,

"Dear Sir:—As your hatchery fund is low, I will make you this proposition: We will pay 5 cents per case for each case we packed during the closed season, if each of the cannerymen will agree to do the same, and cold storage men likewise. To the fishermen I will make this proposition: We will pay the regular license of our gear run during the closed season if they will do likewise, and if they will not do this we will stand for a fine on each canneryman not to exceed \$500, and each fisherman \$5 for gillnetters and \$50 fine for each trap, wheel or seine, to help out the hatchery fund. You can publish this if you desire. Yours,

(Signed) "F. A. SEUFERT."

"Laws have been passed, but where are the fish wardens to enforce them and the fishermen and cannerymen to observe them?" exclaimed Mr. Seufert. They were certainly not at Celilo trying to bribe the fish warden to allow the wheelmen to fish during the closed season in direct violation of law. They were not trying to influence the master fish warden to allow Mr. Seufert to fish during the closed season, in violation of law, upon the agreement to pay 5 cents a case for all fish packed, or a fine of \$500 for propagation purposes. No, Mr. Seufert was attending to this part of protecting the salmon industry from the mayor's office at The Dalles. If Mr. Seufert is so much concerned about the protection of the salmon industry,

why does he fish on the three sand bars below Celilo which are the natural spawning grounds of the late chinook salmon? He operates three large seines on these natural spawning grounds and it is impossible for fish to spawn. If the salmon industry is to be protected, the legislature should certainly pass a law prohibiting fishing with seines above tide water. There are more fish destroyed on the three sand bars owned and operated by Mr. Seufert than would supply all the cannerymen on the river. Not content with catching small salmon in his fish wheels in violation of law, he stops natural propagation by means of seines on natural spawning grounds.

It is certain that Mr. Seufert is not in a position to demand the enforcement of the fishing laws, which he violates, and offers to pay for the privilege of violating. "He that seeks equity must do equity," is a maxim of jurisprudence with which Mr. Seufert is not familiar.

"Tide water fishermen," says Mr. Seufert, "have been catching salmon in season and out, just as they pleased, and have defied the law and held fish wardens in contempt. On August 15 it was the sworn duty of the wardens to stop fishing. Did they do it? Not they. Mr. Van Dusen was gentle as usual, and said softly it was no use to save salmon after that time, because they would not reach the hatcheries anyhow."

After reading the above, readers are requested to again read Mr. Seufert's letter to Mr. Van Dusen. Comment on Mr. Seufert's pious exhortation on the enforcement of the closed season is not necessary. There is a wide divergence in his views between September 10 and December 7. It might be opportune to inquire of Mr. Seufert if he has been hopelessly converted, or is this only one of his spasms. Speaking of the blue backs, Mr. Seufert says:

"But these fish are almost entirely gone. Why? Because they were not propagated at hatcheries. This last season our cannery packed only 245 cases of bluebacks; the season before the number was about 400 and the season before that about 700. With the gradual disappearance of bluebacks we have had to deepen our wheels so as to catch chinooks."

Mr. Seufert is in a better position to explain the extermination of these fish than any other man in Oregon. It is impossible to take salmon for propagation purposes when they are destroyed by the three seines used by Seufert on the natural spawning grounds on his property, or what he claims to own. It would not be necessary for Mr. Seufert to deepen his wheels to catch the chinooks, if he would cease operations with his seines.

Mr. Seufert threatens to take a 300 fathom net and go before the legislature if he has to spread the net all over the capitol building. He will probably take up some other inducements in the shape of metallic substance of the realm, the same as he did in 1895 when a bill was introduced in the legislature to abolish fish wheels. The bill passed the house, but owing to Mr. Seufert's persuasive eloquence and winning ways superinduced by a plethoric pocketbook, a majority of the senate were convinced that fish wheels were a necessary adjunct to the propagation of the salmon industry. Yes, Mr. Seufert has been a member of the third house before and intends to be again.

Stand up, Mr. Seufert, and explain to the people of Oregon why you are so anxious to have the closing laws enforced now, when you wanted to pay for the privilege of violating them on September 10.

Stand up, Mr. Seufert, and explain to the people, if, having fallen from grace, you have reformed, and are not actuated by selfish motives in the demand for a strict enforcement of the fishing laws.

Stand up, Mr. Seufert, and enlighten the public if you are willing to hang up your seines and stop seining on the natural spawning grounds of the upper Columbia.

The people of Oregon are entitled to an explanation relative to your recent conversation. If you are honest and sincere in your last statement, no doubt the men engaged in the industry will co-operate with you in securing enforcement of all fishing laws; but if you are simply actuated by selfish motives—as everyone in Oregon who knows you believes—then you are not in a position to dictate to the officers charged with the enforcement of the fishing laws. The leper cannot change his spots. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for an up-river canneryman to enter the kingdom of heaven, especially carrying such a load of recently acquired respect for the fishing laws of the state of Oregon.

A MAN AND A CRISIS.

Americans may not sympathize with the policy or hope for the success of Russia in the far east, but those who admire manhood, no matter under which flag it fights, will find an opportunity to enthuse over the conduct of General Stoessel, the commander-in-chief at Port Arthur.

From the initial stages of the land and water siege, Stoessel must have realized, along with his fellows and the bureaucrats in St. Petersburg, that the fall of the fortress was inevitable. If he had ever entertained any fatuous doubts on that subject, the recent smashing of both the Russian fleets and the dogged approach of the Japanese by land, must have brought him

back to sanity in a rush. Discovering that he could expect no hope from his naval compatriots, he may at least have cherished the delusion that the enemy could be held off on the land side for a sufficient time to permit the smashing of Kuroki by Kuropatkin, and the arrival of the latter to the relief of beleaguered Port Arthur.

It now appears that even this slender encouragement has been withdrawn and he faces sure defeat, with the end only a question of weeks, perhaps days or hours. The cunningly contrived barbed wire entanglements in front of Port Arthur, the splendid courage and accuracy of the Russian gunners and infantry, and the natural strategic strength of the position itself, would probably have been conceded by experts as justifying hopes of the highest order. This theory, however, did not take into account the almost superhuman bravery of the Japanese. They have cast themselves on the seemingly impregnable defenses of the port, only to be mown down like cattle, or as the helpless Tibetan spearsmen, against the machine-guns of the British.

Forging on and ever onward, with terrific loss of life, and the exigencies of combat such that no time could even be taken for burying the putrefying dead, the brown soldiers have captured the most formidable of the Port Arthur outposts and are now presumed to be resting for the final assault.

The Japanese commander, humanely desiring to avoid useless slaughter, if possible, broached General Stoessel on the 15th under flag of truce, with a proposal for the honorable surrender of the port. It is reported that the cornered Russian hardly heard him out. Flinging to the winds his habitual taciturnity, he rejected the terms in such a whirlwind of polyglot profanity that the Japanese commander retreated precipitately and made preparations for the reduction of the fortress, whether it cost him one or every brigade under his command.

"War is hell," certainly. It is deplorable and, as Tolstol droningly reiterates, often useless. But while the victorious Japanese are being showered with plaudits, we cannot repress a thrill of admiration for the man who, at bay, without hope, facing destruction at the hands of the enemy and probably degradation at home, can forcefully refuse a course which, at the worst, is hastening the inevitable.

Had Russia exhibited half the qualities in preparing for the strife, as her generals and men have in fortitude on field and sea, the newspapers of today might have been chronicling Muscovite instead of Japanese victories.

Will Entail Quite an Expense.

The Ninth Street Improvement will entail quite an expense on the city. Under the charter only 75 per cent of the assessed valuation of the property can be assessed for the improvement, and as the lots are not assessed as high as the cost of the improvement, the deficiency must be paid out of the general fund. The city will be required to pay \$1463.85 for the improvement. In addition to this, considerable damage has been done to the property, and claims will be presented to the council which will probably have to be enforced by a suit in the courts.

The W. C. T. U. has voted down an amendment requiring male members to abstain from tobacco. The Christmas present brand is still alluring.

The best place for courting before marriage in a cozy corner, and after it in South Dakota.

IN THE TOOMBS

(Continued from Page 1.)

was one of the most successful machine manufacturers in the state of Ohio. He became interested, in 1897, in the Buffalo Radiator Company. This concern ate up his money. When we went into it he was worth \$250,000. When he died, exactly one year later, his estate owed more than \$74,000. The loss of a fortune killed him."

Mrs. York has two daughters living with her at her Geary street home in San Francisco.

Sensation to Come.

New York, Dec. 8.—Today practically all interest in the case was centered in conjectures as to what the future will reveal. Men who profess to have an intimate knowledge of the affairs of the woman, have hinted that only a suggestion of the real case has yet become public. One man is credited with the statement that time will show this to be the most stupendous and far-reaching case of its kind in many years.

Already the country has been startled by the disclosures that have followed one after another in quick succession since Mrs. Chadwick's affairs were brought before the public, in less than two weeks. Since that time Mrs. Chadwick's known indebtedness has grown from less than \$200,000 to more than \$1,000,000, and her counsel has said that the claims against her may amount to \$20,000,000 for all he knows. The validity of some of the claims, however, said the attorney, was another matter. In the same period at least two banks have taken cognizance of the case and the federal officers have taken upon themselves to investigate the validity of notes aggregating more than \$1,000,000, which bear the name of the new Carnegie.

Swell Togs

For Men.

P. A. STOKES

Home of Swell Togs



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TIME

you were seeing us about your Winter Suit or Overcoat if you expect to be in the "running" with the fashionably dressed men around town. These garments are "chock full" of good quality, and style that is only produced by a first class City Tailor. To buy your clothes here is to be well dressed, and to be well dressed is half the battle of life.

We Fit Anyone

P. A. STOKES

Money Back if Dissatisfied

PERSONAL MENTION.

W. R. Hollister of Portland is in the city.

John G. Clark of Seaside was in Astoria yesterday.

Alex Duncan of Seaside was in the city yesterday.

Louis Cordes went to Portland yesterday for a visit.

William F. Binder returned last night from a visit to Portland.

Henry Diese was a passenger to Portland yesterday morning.

James Jamison, the Nehalem rancher, was in Astoria yesterday.

John Cahill of Vesper was in the city on business before the county court.

H. B. Parker has returned from an extended visit to California and the east.

Louis Hauff, builder of submarine boats at Chinook, went to Portland yesterday.

C. E. Loomis and wife of Ilwaco are in the city. Mr. Loomis is now connected with the Pacific Journal.

Martin Foad of Foad & Stokes Company has returned from a visit to the property of the Mutual Company. He reports the affairs of the mill and the lumber business generally in first-class condition, and says his concern has all the orders it can well fill.

J. Libby of the Puget Sound Tugboat Company of Seattle is in the city. He is here to see about making some repairs to the bar tug Tatoosh, which are deemed necessary. Mr. Libby has just returned from California, where he has been the past month. He will return home this week.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

A Large and Varied Assortment at Ekstrom's.

Here are a few articles which will make suitable and handsome Christmas presents for anyone. All popular and stylish, cheap in price, but high in quality. Read: Silver novelties in numerous different patterns, handsome cut glass pieces, sterling silverware, ebony goods in brushes, glasses and toilet sets, fancy umbrellas and canes, match boxes, tableware, fine chains, chafing dishes, carving sets, special watches, diamonds, broches and a thousand other things. It will pay you to consult our prices before going elsewhere.

H. EKSTROM, Astoria, Ore.

Attention Bartenders.

The Bartenders' Union have moved into the Carnahan hall, over William Bock's, where all meetings will be held in the future. The first meeting will be held tonight, at which all members are requested to be present. Election of officers will take place. Refreshments will be served. A full attendance is requested. CHAS. DALSTROM, Secretary.

For sale—At Gaston's feed stable, No. 105 Fourteenth street; one Landle's harness machine; one Smith-Premier typewriter; one 20 hp motor and belt; 1000 good sacks.

Best meals in town at the New Style Restaurant.

A fine consignment of stock, a dried fish of great favor, imported from Norway, has been received at the Astoria Grocery. Send in your order, they are fine.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad's New Through Service.

Effective November 27th, 1904, and thereafter, a new daily train will be inaugurated, leaving Grand Central passenger station, Chicago, at 10:30 p. m., for Akron, Cleveland, Youngstown, Pittsburg and intermediate points, connecting at Pittsburg with "Duquesne Limited" for Philadelphia and New York, and with train No. 10 for Washington, D. C., and Baltimore.

This train will be equipped with first-class day coaches, Pullman sleepers and dining car service. On all through tickets stop-over will be allowed at Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia, not to exceed 10 days at each place.

For further particulars address: Peter Harvey, General Agent, Room 1, Hobart Bldg., San Francisco.

D. B. Martin, Manager Passenger Traffic Baltimore, Md.

B. N. Austin, General Passenger Agent, Chicago.

To the Public.

Notice is hereby given that the office of the Auditor and Police Judge will be open between the hours of 7 and 9 o'clock p. m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings of this week to accommodate any who may desire to register for the coming election. The registration books will be closed Saturday at 4 o'clock p. m., the 10th day of December, 1904.

OLOF ANDERSON, Auditor and Police Judge of the city of Astoria.

Notice to Stockholders.

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Columbia River Packers Association will be held at the office of the company at Astoria, Oregon, on December 12th, 1904, at 11 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of electing Directors, and the transaction of such other business as may properly be considered.

Astoria, Or., Nov. 28, 1904.

GEO. H. GEORGE, Sec'y.

Next Time

You need a pair of Men's, Women's or Children's

SHOES

Honest, Durable Shoes

For less money than you have been paying try

S. A. GIMRE

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Fisher's Opera House

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Week Commencing Monday, Dec. 5

ANNOUNCEMENT EXTRAORDINARY!

JAMES KEANE

And his entire company, presenting a new line of plays. High class Vaudeville Specialties between the acts.

Popular Prices

Reserved Seats, 50c; Gallery, 25c. Seat sale opens Saturday morning at Griffin's Book Store.